

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SPC-03 STR-08

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0139

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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PASS AGRICULTURE, FRUIT & VEGETABLE DIVISION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR,GW

SUBJECT: EC PROPOSAL FOR MIP'S ON PROCESSED FRUITS AND
VEGETABLES

REF: (A) STATE 011683; (B) EC BRUSSELS 6730

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF (A) AGATTACHE HANDED TO FRG
MINAG'S DR. HOFFMANN ON 31 JAN.L974 A LETTER OUTLINING
US POSITION RE MIP'S PROPOSAL AS OUTLINED IN REF. (B).

2. DURING DISCUSSION DR. HOFFMANN STATED THAT THE
DOMESTIC GERMAN PROCESSING INDUSTRY IS NOT ENDANGERED
BY IMPORTS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES, BUT BY OTHER EC
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COUNTRIES. HOFFMANN COULD FORSEE THAT REPLACEMENT OF THE

PRESENT NATIONAL REGULATION SYSTEM BY THE MIP SYSTEM WOULD CREATE FURTHER DIFFICULTIES FOR GERMANY IN COMPETING WITH INNER-EC SUPPLIERS.

3. DR. HOFFMANN STATED THAT THE SURETY DEPOSIT PROVISIO COULD POSSIBLY HAVE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THAT TRADE WHICH IS NOT SUPPOSED TO BE THE TARGET OF THE MIP SCHEME. SHE STATED THAT THE MIP PROPOSAL WOULD BE INFLATIONARY.

4. ACCORDING TO DR. HOFFMANN, THE GERMAN CANNERS ASSOCIATION HAS NOT SHOWN INTEREST IN THE PROPOSED MIP, AND THAT MINAG HAS RECEIVED LITTLE INPUT EITHER PRO OR CON FROM THEM. HOWEVER, THE ISSUE HAS BEEN VERY VIGOROUSLY OPPOSED BY THE GERMAN IMPORTERS ASSOCIATIONS. DR. HOFFMANN VOLUNTEERED THAT THIS WAS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF AN ISSUE IN WHICH ONE OR TWO MEMBER COUNTRIES WERE PROMOTING THEIR OWN INTERESTS -- AND WHICH WOULD PROBABLY BE IMPLEMENTED AS PART OF A POLITICAL PACKAGE, DESPITE ALL ARGUMENTS TO THE CONTRARY.

5. COMMENT: THE FRG HAS UNTIL NOW BEEN SINGULARLY UN-ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE MIP SCHEME, AND WE FEEL THAT IT HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN DELAYING THE PROPOSAL. FURTHER THE OFFICIAL FRG POSITION, REGARDING THE STRATEGY TO BE TAKEN VIS-A-VIS THE DRAFT PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL, HAS NOT YET BEEN CLEARLY DEVELOPED. IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT UNLESS SUPPORT IS RECEIVED FROM OTHER QUARTERS, THE FRG WILL CEASE RESISTING. THE ATTITUDE NOW SEEMS TO BE ONE OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE INEVITABLE.

6. AGATTACHE HAS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED ANOTHER APPOINTMENT WITH APPROPRIATE MINAG OFFICIALS FOR MID-FEBRUARY, AT WHICH TIME IT IS HOPED THAT THE OFFICIAL POSITION CAN BE REPORTED.
HILLENBRAND

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